CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cooking apparatus, comprising:

a cabinet having an opening in a top surface defining a heating space ;

a heating unit installed in the opening, the heating space transmitting heat from the heating unit to food;

a grill unit on the top surface of the cabinet supporting the food over the opening; and

a contamination preventing unit included in the heating space and preventing an inside surface of the cabinet from being contaminated with material dropping from the food.

2. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the contamination preventing unit is shaped like a plate, and is removably installed in the heating space through the opening.

3. The cooking apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the heating unit comprises:

two heating units, installed at both sides of the heating space to face each other, each being spaced apart from front and rear panels of the cabinet by a predetermined distance, which prevent the heat from being transmitted from the heating units to the front and rear panels, and

a cover part extending from each side edge of the contamination preventing unit to cover a space between the front and rear panels of the cabinet and the two heating units.

4. The cooking apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a handle part extending from an upper edge of the contamination preventing unit is bent at a predetermined angle, allowing the contamination preventing unit to be easily installed in and removed from the heating space.

5. The cooking apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a tray in a lower portion of the heating space collecting the material dropping from the food and

a lower edge of the contamination preventing unit in contact with the tray to guide back to the tray.

6. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a tray in a lower portion of the heating space collecting the material dropping from the food, the tray being integrally connected to the contamination preventing unit .

7. The cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

the heating unit comprises two heating units installed at both sides of the heating space to face each other, and

two through holes that allow thermal energy generated from the two heating units to pass through the through holes.

8. A cooking apparatus, comprising:

a hollow cabinet having a first opening in a top surface in which food is supported and a second opening in a side surface;

a heating unit providing heat which is transmitted to the food through the hollow cabinet; and

a contamination preventing unit which collects material dropping from the food during cooking and collects material from the food which is deflected inside the cabinet.

9. A cooking apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the contamination preventing unit further comprises:

a removable tray installed through the second opening; and

a removable plate installed through the first opening, wherein the tray collects material, which is deflected by the plate, and material dropping from the food during cooking, and the plate deflects uncollected material from the food to the tray.

10. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the tray comprises:

a groove in the tray to collect material from the food; and

a plurality of inclines directing material expelled from the food and material deflected by the plate into the groove.

11. The cooking apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an edge of the plate extends to a surface of the tray.

12. The cooking apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the plate further comprises a handle extending substantially outside of the cabinet.

13. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the tray comprises:

an elevated section running through a center line of the tray;

a groove on a side of the elevated section, running along a length of the elevated section, to collect material from the food; and

an inclined section running from the elevated section to the groove.

14. The cooking apparatus according to claim 13, wherein an edge of the plate extends to the surface of the tray.

15. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the plate further comprises a handle extending substantially outside the cabinet.

16. A cooking apparatus, comprising:

a hollow cabinet having an opening in a top surface in which food is supported;

a heating unit providing heat which is transmitted to the food through the hollow cabinet; and

a contamination preventing unit which collects material expelled from the food during cooking, and collects material from the food, which is deflected inside the cabinet.

17. A cooking apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the contamination preventing unit further comprises:

a removable tray installed through the opening; and

a plate integrally connected to the tray installed through the opening, wherein the tray collects material dropping from the food during cooking and the plate deflects uncollected material from the food to the tray.

18. The cooking apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the tray comprises an incline directing material dropping from the food and material from the food deflected by the plate into a groove.

19. The cooking apparatus according to claim 18, wherein an edge of the plate extends to a surface of the tray.

20. The cooking apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the plate further comprises a handle extending substantially outside the cabinet.

21. The cooking apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the tray comprises:

an elevated section running through a center line of the tray;

a groove on a side of the elevated section, running along a length of the elevated section, to collect material from the food; and

an inclined section running from the elevated section to the groove.

22. The cooking apparatus according to claim 21, wherein an edge of the plate extends to a surface of the tray.

23. The cooking apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the plate further comprises a handle extending substantially outside the cabinet.